



## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services  
Colorado Field Office  
755 Parfet Street, Suite 361  
Lakewood, Colorado 80215

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
ES/CO: T&E/PMJM  
Mail Stop 65412

September 12, 2002

To whom it may concern:

In the Federal Register dated July 17, 2002, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gave notice of a proposal to designate critical habitat for the Preble's meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*), a threatened species, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The proposal is also available at the Service's Preble's mouse web site [[www.R6.FWS.gov/preble](http://www.R6.FWS.gov/preble)]. The notice indicated that comments regarding this proposed rule should be sent to the Colorado Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 755 Parfet Street, Suite 361, Lakewood, CO 80215 or via e-mail to [[fw6\\_pmjm@fws.gov](mailto:fw6_pmjm@fws.gov)] by September 16, 2002.

Because of numerous requests for extension of the comment period, the Service will reopen the comment period on the proposed designation of critical habitat coincidental with an announcement of availability of a draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed designation. Specifics regarding reopening of the comment period and availability of the draft Environmental Assessment will be announced in the Federal Register.

In addition, in response to requests from the public, the Service will host an additional public meeting/hearing on the proposed critical habitat designation in Colorado. The format will be a presentation of information regarding the proposal, followed by a question and answer session, then a hearing providing an opportunity to present formal comments on the proposal. The time and location of this meeting will be announced in the Federal Register at least 15 days prior to the meeting. In addition, information regarding the meeting will be posted on the Preble's mouse web site and widely publicized by appropriate means.

For further information contact LeRoy Carlson, Colorado Field Supervisor, or Peter Plage at the above mailing address or at 303/275-2370.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

LeRoy W. Carlson  
Colorado Field Supervisor